



# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

**JUN 27 2000**

Michael D. Klingner, P.E.  
Upper Mississippi, Illinois & Missouri Rivers Association  
616 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Quincy, Illinois 62301

Dear Mr. Klingner:

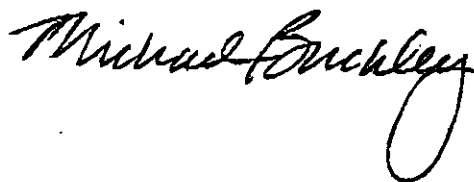
Thank you for your letter of March 13, 2000, regarding the Flow Frequency Study of the Upper Mississippi River System, and I apologize for the delay in responding. We appreciate your time and effort in meeting with us and in providing comments to us. We believe it is time well spent to ensure that the study provides accurate results from which to base future floodplain management decisions. We look forward to continued cooperation and coordination with your organization and with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Your letter specifically discussed seven notes of understanding, and you asked that we confirm ~~or otherwise comment on them~~. We wish to comment on two notes in particular, notes 5 and 7 as outlined in your letter. In note 5, you indicated that because the levee meets the requirements of PL 84-99, the profile calculations should be performed assuming that the levee will not be overtopped. The water-surface profiles and resulting base (1% annual chance) flood elevations must reflect actual conditions. For this reason, further coordination will be necessary to resolve this issue. Therefore, this will be a topic of discussion at the Upper Mississippi River System Flow Frequency Study Task Force meeting being held on June 29.

In note 7, you indicated that the review of potential changes to regulations, and their impacts, should be coordinated with the Public Involvement Group. Additionally, you reiterated our position that additional funding will be necessary to update FEMA's flood hazard maps and that FEMA will continue to use the existing maps and profiles for National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) purposes until the new profiles are adopted. You pointed out that there will be a "gray" time between the time the Flow Frequency Study of the Upper Mississippi River System is completed and the time the new profiles are adopted for use in the NFIP. We want to re-affirm our commitment to working with the Public Involvement Group. Additionally, we will continue to explore ways to secure the necessary funding.

We are excited about the Flow Frequency Study of the Upper Mississippi River System and the most up-to-date flood hazard data that the study will provide. The continued cooperation between your organization, the USACE, and us will help achieve this goal. If you have further concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at our Headquarters at (202) 646-2756.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Buckley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Michael K. Buckley, P.E., Director  
Technical Services Division  
Mitigation Directorate

cc: Dr. James Johnson, USACE  
FEMA Region V  
FEMA Region VII